

January 5, 1927.

Mr. William C. Stevens,  
c/o The National Bank of New Jersey,  
New Brunswick, New Jersey.

My dear Mr. Stevens:

Since receiving Mr. Reilly's letter in regard to your proposed visit here this winter, I have been working quietly, trying to find out just what sort of a reception you might expect.

The editors of our local papers were interviewed on the subject, and they all informed me that there would be no way to avoid all the publicity which would be the natural outcome of your arrival here. They are all familiar with the fact that you have spent several winters in this city, and because of the national publicity given the case, have naturally followed the Hall-Mills trial. Therefore, your arrival in St. Petersburg would be a news item which could not be kept out of the papers. But they have assured me that, after mentioning the fact of your visit, there would be no "following-up", or effort to arouse public interest. The matter would be allowed to drop, and I do not believe you would be annoyed with reporters, etc.

When I called upon the manager of the Central Hotel, he referred me to the owner, who is at present in Easton, Pa. You will find attached a letter to Mr. Buss and his reply. He states that he has written to your bank, so you have probably heard from him by now.

I regret very much my delay in replying to your communication. But before writing you, I wished to hear from Mr. Buss, and his answer was just received yesterday afternoon.

Allow me to congratulate you on the outcome of the trial, and to extend my best wishes for a very happy 1927.

Sincerely yours,

P. V. Gahan,  
Supt. of Recreation.